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PATENT
Docket No.: 0708-4057

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicants : Phyllis SHAPIRO

Serial No. : 09/865,759

Art Unit: 1631

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Filed : May 25, 2001

Examiner: Carolyn L. Smith

For : **Automated Method for Correcting Blood Analysis Parameter
Results Affected by Interference from Exogenous Blood
Substitutes in Whole Blood, Plasma and Serum**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO THE SEPTEMBER 26, 2002 PTO COMMUNICATION

Dear Sir:

This Response is submitted in reply to the September 26, 2002 PTO communication received in the above-identified patent application and addresses the species election requirement for all claims.

REMARKS

In the PTO communication dated September 26, 2002, the Examiner has set forth a restriction under 35 U.S.C. §121 in which the pending claims have been deemed to be directed to five patentably distinct species A-E, which relate to types of hemoglobin. To provide a complete response to the Examiner's restriction, applicants elect Species A, which is directed to a recombinant human hemoglobin. Further in